

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 were pending when an Office Action was mailed July 1, 2005. The Office Action objected to Claims 1-4 and 12-15 and the Abstract, indicated that the Oath was defective, and rejected Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. By way of this Amendment, Applicants hereby submit a new Declaration, amends the Abstract, and Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, and 12-14, and cancels Claims 2, 4, and 6 and adds new Claim 36. Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.111, Applicants hereby respectfully request reconsideration of the Application.

DEFECTIVE OATH OR DECLARATION

The Office Action indicated that the Oath or Declaration was defective because the signature of inventor Shimasaki was not dated. Applicants hereby submit a new signed Declaration by inventor Shimasaki.

OBJECTION TO THE ABSTRACT

The Office Action objected to the Abstract. Applicants hereby amend the Abstract in order to overcome the noted objection.

OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 1-4 AND 12-15

The Office Action objected to Claims 1-4 and 12-15 because of informalities. Applicants hereby amend or cancel the noted informalities in order to overcome the noted objection.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 2, AND 4 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected Claims 1, 2, and 4 as being anticipated by Lanning. The Office Action states that the Lanning airplane includes lavatory separated by a partition from the aircraft's main cabin with each lavatory including a commode and a sink. The right-hand sink of Lanning is considered to be located externally to the left-hand lavatory. With regard to amended independent Claim 1, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

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701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4800
Seattle, Washington 98104
206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301

With regard to amended independent Claim 1, Applicants submit that Lanning fails to teach or suggest that the sink that is external to the lavatories is mounted to an external side of the separator or wall of the lavatory. Therefore, amended independent Claim 1 is allowable over Lanning.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-15 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-15 as being anticipated by Painter. The Office Action states that Painter includes male and female bathroom facilities that include stall units separated from sinks and that although the Painter lavatory unit is not part of an aircraft, it can be incorporated into an aircraft or carried aboard a transport aircraft. With regard to amended independent Claims 1, 5, and 13, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

With regard to amended independent Claims 1, 5, and 13, Applicants submit that Painter fails to teach or suggest that the lavatory complex includes plumbing components that are coupled to both the commode and urinals internal to the complex as well as to plumbing components of an aircraft. Applicants submit that support for this amendment is in the specification on page 3, lines 16-20. Therefore, Applicants submit that amended independent Claims 1, 5, and 13 are allowable over Painter. Because Claims 3, 7-12, and 14 depend from allowable independent claims, they are allowable for the same reasons that make their corresponding independent claims allowable.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims of the pending application are now in condition for allowance over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections, allowance, and early passage through issuance. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' agent listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}



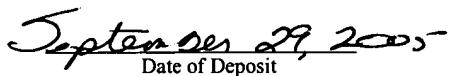
Dale C. Barr

Registration No. 40,498

Direct Dial: 206.957.2463

MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via first class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.08 on the date indicated below addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



September 29, 2005

Date of Deposit



Wendy Saxby

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701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4800
Seattle, Washington 98104
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